

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EVALUATING RESULTS OF
MULTIPLE SOFTWARE TOOLS**

ABSTRACT

A method and structure for optimizing a solution for a complex problem
5 typically solved by software tools includes selectively converting problem data into
a format appropriate for one or more preselected vendor's set of solution tools and
inputting the formatted design data into the one or more preselected vendor's set
of solution tools. If more than one vendor has been preselected, resultant solution
results are compared and the optimum solution is selected.

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